THE WEATHER OF THE MONTH.

By Mr. P. C. DAY, Assistant Chief, Division of Meteorological Records.

PRESSURE.

The distribution of mean atmospheric pressure is graphically shown on Chart VI, and the average values and departures from normal are shown in Tables I and V.

The average pressure for April, 1906, over the United States and Canada departed considerably from the normal as to the general position of the highs and lows common to the month. The high pressure, normal over the region from Florida northward to Hudson Bay, was materially augmented during April over its southern extremity and diminished rapidly northward; the north Pacific high extended eastward well beyond its normal limits and the low over the Southwest was appreciably higher than the average.

Over the northern portion of the States of Minnesota and North Dakota, and extending into the Canadian Northwest Territories, the pressure averaged much lower than the

normal.

The resulting distribution was a marked ridge of high pressure extending from the Gulf States northwestward to the States of Washington and Oregon, and diminishing by gentle gradients north and south.

TEMPERATURE.

Under the influence of the distribution of pressure, noted above, the surface drift of the atmosphere was largely northward from the ridge of highest pressure, and average temperatures far above the normal for the month were recorded in all districts brought under the influence of the warm southerly winds which extended as far north as the field of observation.

Over the region from the Great Lakes westward to the Rocky Mountains and northward, the average temperatures for the month were, with one or two exceptions, as high as any previously recorded in April.

South of the ridge of highest pressure, under the influence of generally northerly surface winds, the temperature averages

were below the normal.

The lowest temperatures recorded during the month occurred in northern Maine, where readings below zero were reported.

Average temperatures and departures from normal.

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Districts.	Number of stations.	Average temperatures for the current month.	Departures for the current month.	Accumu- lated departures since January 1.	Average departures since January 1.
New England Middle Atlantic South Atlantic Florida Peninsula* East Gulf West Gulf Ohio Valley and Tennessee Lower Lake Upper Lake Upper Mississippi Valley Missouri Valley Morthern Slope Middle Slope Southern Slope* Southern Plateau*	11 7	43.5 53.5 63.9 71.0 66.5 67.4 57.6 46.9 44.9 47.7 54.0 56.0 60.1	0 + 0.5 + 2.7 + 2.0 + 0.5 + 0.7 + 0.3 + 2.2 + 4.2 + 4.2 + 4.2 + 3.4 + 3.5 + 1.8 - 0.5 - 0.3 - 0.3	+ 5.6 + 4.5 - 0.0 - 1.7 - 6.7 - 3.7 - 1.2 + 5.9 + 9.8 + 16.6 + 4.0 + 11.3 - 3.1 + 4.3 - 3.1 + 6.2	0 + 1.4 + 1.1 1 - 0.4 - 1.7 - 0.9 - 0.3 + 1.5 + 2.4 + 4.2 + 1.0 + 2.8 + 1.1 - 0.8 + 1.6 + 1.6
Middle Plateau *	12 7 5	47. 8 50. 4 51. 3 56. 0 50. 0	+ 3.7 + 2.7 + 1.5 - 0.6	+ 4.3 + 8.9 + 9.0 + 7.8 + 6.0	+ 1.1 + 2.2 + 2.2 + 2.0 + 1.5

^{*} Regular Weather Bureau and selected cooperative stations.

In Canada.—Prof. R. F. Stupart says:

The mean temperature of April was higher than the average over the whole Dominion, excepting a portion of the Maritime Provinces, where there was a negative departure of from 1° to 2°. The widest positive departure from average, amounting to between 8° and 10°, occurred in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, whence westward it diminished to 3° near the Pacific coast, and eastward to between 1° and 3° in Ontario and western Quebec.

PRECIPITATION.

The persistence of high barometric pressure over the South Atlantic and Gulf States and over the States of Oregon and Washington, and a corresponding absence of low pressure areas, resulted in a largely diminished amount of precipitation over those regions.

Over portions of Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee the month was the driest April on record, and similar conditions prevailed over the greater parts of Washington and Oregon. As a whole the month was one of deficient rainfall, nearly all sections showing amounts below the normal, except western Texas and the southern Rocky Mountain region, where amounts considerably above the normal were recorded.

The snowfall for the month was confined largely to the mountain regions of the west and the northern tier of States. The amounts were generally light, except over New England, where depths as great as 20 inches were recorded, and over the central Rocky Mountain region, where heavy falls occurred, thereby augmenting the already abundant visible supply of water available for irrigation.

Average precipitation and departure from the normal.

	r of	Aver	age.	Departure.		
Districts.	Number stations.	Current month.	Percent- age of normal.	Current month.	Accumu- lated since Jan. 1.	
1		Inches.		Inches.	Inches.	
New England	9	2.60	81	-0.6	-1.5	
Middle Atlantic	13	2.49	76	-0.8	— <u>2.</u> 5	
South Atlantic	10	1. 26	39	-2.0	-3.	
Florida Peninsula *	8	1. 14	49	1.2	+0.3	
East Gulf	8	1. 27	28	-3.3	_4 . ⋅	
West Gulf	7	2.12	55	-1.7	-5	
hio Valley and Tennessee	12	2.11	54	—1.8	-4.	
Lower Lake	8	1.81	78	<u>-0.5</u>	-3.	
Jpper Lake	10	1.61	69	-0.7	-0.	
North Dakota *	8	1.31	77	-0.4	— <u>1</u> .	
Upper Mississippi Valley	13	1.83	62	-1.1	0.	
Missouri Valley	11	2. 81	97	-0.1	+0.	
Northern Slope	7	1.64	100	0.0	+0.	
Middle Slope	6	2, 86	132	+0.7	+0.	
Southern Slope*	6	3. 59	190	+1.7	+1.	
Southern Plateau *	13	1.58	273	+1.0	+2.	
Middle Plateau *	* 8	1.94	170	+0.8	+2.	
Northern Plateau*	12	0. 57	45	-0.7 -2.7	-0.	
North Pacific	7	1.47	35	—2. <i>i</i>	—7.	
Middle Pacific	5	1. 36	55		+3.	
South Pacific	4	0.82	58	-0.6	+4.	

^{*}Regular Weather Bureau and selected cooperative stations.

In Canada.—Professor Stupart says:

The precipitation was in excess of the normal over the Maritime Provinces, while in all other parts of the Dominion it was deficient. In British Columbia, the Northwest Provinces, excepting a few localities in Manitoba, and over most of northern Ontario, the total fall was very scant, and in southern Ontario and in Quebec it was considerably short of the average for April. Halifax, with 8.4 inches, and Charlottetown, with 6.1 inches, were the two stations with the largest amounts, including several inches of snow. In many districts of the upper Ottawa Valley the total fall was less than half an inch, and this was also the case very generally in the Northwest Provinces.

Average relative humidity and departures from the normal.

Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.	Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.
New England	70 62 64 74 68 74 64 68 71 69	- 3 - 5 - 8 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 2 + 1 - 1	Missouri Valley Northern Slope Middle Slope Southern Slope Southern Plateau Middle Plateau Northern Plateau Northern Plateau North Pacific Middle Pacific South Pacific	65 60 62 61 46 56 53 74 70	$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ + 2 \\ + 5 \\ + 6 \\ + 16 \\ + 11 \\ - 4 \\ - 2 \\ + 3 \end{array}$

Maximum wind velocities.

Average cloudiness and departures from the normal.

Stations.	Date,	Velocity.	Direction.	Stations.	Date.	Velocity.	Direction.	Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.	Districts.	Average.	Departure from the normal.
Block Island, R. I. Cape Henry, Va. Do. Cleveland, Ohio. Columbus, Ohio. Denver, Colo. El Paso, Tex. Indianapolis, Ind. Modena, Utah Mount Tamalpais, Cal Do.	23 25 29 12 24 9 23 3 4 6 10 16 17 25 27 28 6 6 23 24 24 25 27 27 28 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27 27	50 56 52 60 52 51 56 58 51 69 52 50 55 52 57 60 60 60 62 52	e. nw. w. nw. nw. sw. nw. ne. sw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. n	New York, N. Y. Do. Do. North Head, Wash. North Platte, Nebr. Oklahoma, Okla Do. Point Reyes Light, Cal. Do. Do. Do. Do. Po. Poo. Pueblo, Colo Do. Southeast Farallon, Cal. Do Do Do Tatoosh Island, Wash. Valentiue, Nebr	24 25 8 13 1 24 10 11 23 25 27 28 7 24 10 27 28 8 13	52 54 52 60 59 50 54 62 56 57 71 71 55 51 52 54 58 68	nw. w. w. se. n. s. sw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. nw. n	New England Middle Atlantic. South Atlantic. Florida Peninsula East Gulf West Gulf. Ohio Valley and Tennessee. Lower Lake Upper Lake North Dakota. Upper Mississippi Valley.	4, 5 3, 6 4, 4 5, 8 4, 9 5, 1 5, 2	0.0 -0.7 -0.8 -0.3 -0.1 +0.6 -0.9 -0.6 -0.3 -0.7	Missouri Valley Northern Slope Middle Slope Southern Slope Southern Plateau Middle Plateau Northern Plateau Northern Plateau North Pacific Middle Pacific South Pacific	4.5 4.8 5.0 3.4 5.2 4.2 6.1	- 0.3 - 0.9 + 0.4 + 0.8 + 1.1 + 0.7 - 2.1 - 0.4 - 0.1

DESCRIPTION OF TABLES AND CHARTS.

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For description of tables and charts see page 38 of Review for January, 1906.